



Enterprise Architecture Reviews occur as part of multiple governance processes: -Policies, Standards, and Guidelines (PGR); -IT Strategic Plans and Amendments; -Project Initiation; -Request for Proposal (RFP) / Invitation for Bid (IFB); -Contracts; -VITA Architecture Review (VAR).

All architecture is design, but not all design is architecture (Paul Clements): - Architecture addresses system qualities; -Architecture addresses cross-cutting concerns; -Architecture provides the system skeleton; -Architecture decisions are hard to change; -Architecture addresses risks the system faces; -Architecture constrains as much as it defines. ~Erin Woods, WICSA2011-T4 Viewpoints and Perspectives

VAR Objectives and Intent: -Support compliance with Security and Enterprise Architecture (1. New IT investments need to comply with ITRM requirements and Technology Standards to support a robust and capable enterprise, and 2. IT Strategic planning should include efforts to attain compliance); -Provides a value-add service to agencies by enabling achievement of the best balance between IT efficiency and innovation, which then allows agencies to transform their enterprises in a controlled manner to meet Commonwealth of Virginia and their goals and objectives.

Business drivers for Architecture review: -ITRM requirements; -Enterprise constraints; -Technology standards; -Technology stacks; -Technology trends; -Support (vendor or equivalent)

ITRM Requirements

- SEC 501: 4.3.2.11 - Prohibit the use of software products that the software publisher has designated as End-of-Life (i.e., software publisher no longer provides security patches for the software product).
- EA 225: PLA-R-37 Supported Server Operating Systems – The release version levels of all server operating systems shall have vendor or equivalent level support. This support shall include security update and hotfix support. The use of unsupported open source server operating systems shall be avoided.
- EA 225: DB-R-02 Support Tools Version/Release Levels – The version/release levels of all databases and related tools used to develop or support Commonwealth and/or agency “mission critical applications” shall have vendor or equivalent level support.

Enterprise Constraints: -Constrain by adhering to standards (1. Is this need / request good for the enterprise? and 2. Standards may seem a hindrance to some, but constraints, especially in the IT arena, drastically lower support costs.); -Allow IT staff the opportunity to do one thing, and do it well versus having to support a wide-variety of differing standards, but doing none of them necessarily well; -Constrain deviations from standards (1. Architectures are not set in stone. 2. If a business case is made for something that deviates from standards, these plans are a reason to stop and give IT decision makers time to decide how (if at all) this deviation fits into the architecture. 3. Perhaps the deviation is a signal the standard needs to be revisited. 4. Intent is to be flexible to meet agency needs. Gartner - The Unexpected Case...

Technology Initiatives

- Initiative 1: Emphasize programs and tools that enable all citizens to interact with government safely and securely, with when, how, and where they want to interact.
- Initiative 2: Improve information-sharing and governance to derive quality information from data already collected.
- Initiative 3: Leverage technology to improve worker productivity and make state employment more attractive to the current and future workforce.
- Initiative 5—Expand technology platforms and productivity tools that support Virginia’s goal of remaining the best managed state.
- Initiative 6—Support initiatives that will make Virginia the leader in IT security and risk management.
- Initiative 7—Expand and support enterprise and collaborative IT services.

Technology Trends: -IT Sourcing Program (ITS); -Shared Data and Analytics (SDA); -Information Security and Risk Management (ISRM); -Enterprise Information Architecture and Data Governance (EIADG); -Cloud Computing Services (CCS); -Digital Government / Internet of Things (DG); -Enterprise Services (ES)

Architecture Review Approach: -Start off with a short series of questions; -Agency completes those questions as the information becomes known and sends those to answers to VITA EA; -VITA EA then reviews the Agency’s answers (1. Provides applicable input where needed. 2. Asks additional questions if needed. 3. Completes review.)

